

Amendment to the Claims

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-6 (cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A method of mining a collection of data ~~to identify related concepts which occur at a frequency greater than a configurable threshold~~, comprising:

receiving a collection of data, the collection of data comprising words;

converting the received data into a common format;

combining the converted received data into clauses of related data;

attempting to associate a category with each word within each of the clauses;

identifying mutually dependent relationships between or among the categorized words, according to at least one rule defining mutually dependent relationships between or among categorized words;

grouping the identified mutually dependent relationships into groups of related mutually dependent relationships; and

~~identifying unique~~ extracting concepts associated with the identified groups of related mutually dependent relationships, wherein the ~~identifying of unique~~ step of extracting concepts comprises recognizing the identified groups of related mutually dependent relationships in which the related mutually dependent relationships exceed a configurable threshold.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the categorized words identified as being in a mutually dependent relationship exist within separate clauses.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein the separate clause exist within separate sentences.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the converting

comprises conversion of the received collection of data into the same format, wherein the received collection of data is made up of various data formats.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the words ~~comprises~~ comprise a coherent character string within the clauses.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the associating of a category with each key word comprises searching a category dictionary to identify a category which matches the key word.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~40~~ 12 wherein the category dictionary is comprised of combinations of original expressions, parts of speech, concepts and categories, wherein the original expressions are equivalent to the key words, the parts of speech are a classification of the key words, the concepts are replacement expressions for the key words and the categories represent a larger group having the nature of the key word.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the mutually dependent relationships are determined according to rules applied to keywords and their associated categories within a clause.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein identifying the groups in which the related mutually dependent relationships exceed a configurable threshold is achieved automatically through utilization of computer generated or user defined rules in which the configurable threshold is defined for each category.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the configurable threshold is provided manually by a user for each of the identified groups of mutually dependent relationships in response to the user being presented a display of all the groups of mutually dependent ~~relationship~~ relationships, at a GUI.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 further ~~comprises~~ comprising presenting the identified groups in which the configurable threshold was exceeded to a user at a GUI.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 further ~~comprises~~ comprising comparing the identified groups in which the configurable threshold was exceeded against a set of rules to determine a course of action, wherein the course of action comprises automatically notifying a user that the exceeding of the threshold, logging the exceeding of the threshold in a user accessible file, or ignoring the exceeding of the threshold.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the set of rules are predefined.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the set of rules are entered manually by a user during a request by the user for specific relationships between categories, whereby mutually dependent relationships by categories are defined by the user according to the user's needs.

21. (Currently amended) An article of manufacture, embodying logic to perform a method of mining a collection of data to identify related concepts which occur at a frequency greater than a configurable threshold, comprising:

receiving a collection of data, the collection of data comprising words;

converting the received data into a common format;

combining the converted received data into clauses of related data;

attempting to associate a category with each key word within each of the clauses;

identifying mutually dependent relationships between or among the categorized words, within each of the clauses;

grouping the identified mutually dependent relationships into groups of related mutually dependent relationships; and

identifying the groups including mutually dependent relationships which occur at a frequency greater than a configurable threshold,

whereby a search query is not required.

22. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 21 wherein converting comprises conversion of the received collection of data into the same format, wherein the received collection of data is made up of various data formats.

23. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 21 wherein the key word comprises a coherent character string within the clauses.

24. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 21 wherein the associating of a category with each key word comprises searching a category dictionary to identify a category which matches the key word.

25. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 24 wherein the category dictionary ~~is comprised of~~ comprises combinations of original expressions, parts of speech, concepts and categories, wherein the original expressions are equivalent to the key words, the parts of speech are a classification of the key words, the concepts are replacement expressions for the key words and the categories represent a larger group having the nature of the key word.

26. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 21 wherein the mutually dependent relationships are determined according to rules applied to keywords and their associated categories within a clause.

27. (Currently amended) A system for data mining, comprising:
means for receiving a collection of data, the collection of data comprising words;
means for converting the received data into a common format;
means for combining the converted received data into clauses of related data;
means for attempting to associate a category with each word within each of the clauses;
means for identifying mutually dependent relationships between or among the
categorized words;
means for grouping the identified mutually dependent relationships into groups of ~~relates~~
related mutually dependent relationships; and
means for identifying the groups including mutually dependent relationship which occur
at a frequency greater than a configurable threshold,
whereby a search query is not required. .

28. (Currently amended) A data mining service ~~to accept a collection of data from a customer and to utilize a data mining system to identify related concepts which occur at a frequency greater than a configurable threshold, the data mining service~~ comprising:

- means for receiving a collection of data from a customer;
- means for converting the received data into a common format;
- means for combining the converted received data into clauses of related data;
- means for attempting to associate a category with each key word in each of the clauses;
- means for identifying mutually dependent relationships between the categorized words within each of the clauses;
- means for grouping the identified mutually dependent relationships into groups of ~~relates~~ related mutually dependent relationships;
- means for identifying the groups of related mutually dependent relationships including mutually dependent relationships which occur at a frequency greater than a configurable threshold; and
- means for providing the customer with the identified groups including mutually dependent relationships which occur at a frequency greater than a configurable threshold.